

Satellite image with enhanced low cloud-top temperatures (degrees C) for 7:15 a.m. EDT (NOAA)

Agricultural Weather Highlights - Wednesday - September 24, 2003

- *In the West*, scattered showers from the remnants of Tropical Storm Marty linger over *Arizona*. Elsewhere, warmth and dryness promote seasonal fieldwork and summer crop dry down.
- On the Plains, dry weather fosters hard red winter wheat planting and summer crop harvesting. However, cool weather and pockets of dryness slow wheat emergence on the northern and central High Plains.
- *In the Corn Belt*, mostly sunny, albeit cool weather promotes summer crop dry down and harvesting, with isolated showers causing only local fieldwork delays.
- In the South, showers expected today from eastern Texas to the Delta will likely cause minor summer crop harvesting delays. Sunny skies promote autumn fieldwork in the Southeast and help floodwater to recede in the mid-Atlantic region.

<u>Outlook</u>: High pressure will provide cool, dry weather to the *Atlantic Coast States*, although a stationary front will maintain scattered showers in *peninsular Florida*. Meanwhile, showers and thunderstorms, some severe, will accompany a strong cold front in the *Ohio Valley and Great Lakes States*, while behind the front, scattered rain and snow showers are possible in the *upper Midwest*. Generally dry weather will prevail from the *Rockies to the Pacific Coast*. However, remnants of Marty will bring locally heavy rain to portions of the *Southwest*, possibly reaching into *West Texas*. The NWS 6-10 day outlook for September 29-October 3 features surplus precipitation *in northern California*, *southern Oregon*, *and along the Atlantic Coast*, while drier-than-normal conditions are anticipated *from the Intermountain West eastward to the Appalachians*. Above-normal temperatures are expected *from the High Plains westward*, while cooler-than-normal weather is forecast *in the eastern half of the Nation*.

Contact: Brad Rippey, Agricultural Meteorologist, USDA/OCE/WAOB, Washington, D.C. (202-720-2397)

Web Site: http://www.usda.gov/oce/waob/jawf/AgWxHighlights/TODAYSWX.PDF